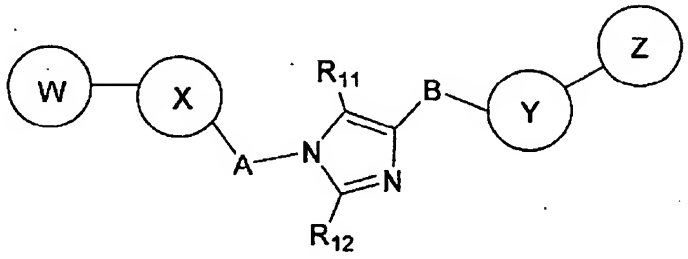
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-20 (Canceled)

21. (New) A compound of the Formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

X is pyridyl;

Y is aryl;

X is optionally substituted with 1-7 independent halogen, –CN, NO_2, -C_{1-6}alkyl, -C_{1-6}alkenyl, -C_{1-6}alkynyl, –OR^1, –NR^1R^2, –$C(=NR^1)NR^2R^3$, -$N(=NR^1)NR^2R^3$, –NR^1COR^2, -$NR^1CO_2R^2$, -$NR^1SO_2R^4$, –$NR^1CONR^2R^3$,–SR^4, -SOR^4, –SO_2R^4, –$SO_2NR^1R^2$, -COR^1, -CO_2R^1, –$CONR^1R^2$, -$C(=NR^1)R^2$, or -$C(=NOR^1)R^2$ substituents, wherein optionally two substituents are combined to form a cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl ring fused to X; wherein the –C_{1-6}alkyl substituent, cycloalkyl ring, or heterocycloalkyl ring each optionally is further substituted with 1-5 independent halogen, –CN, –C_{1-6}alkyl, –O(C_{0-6}alkyl), –O(C_{3-7}cycloalkyl), –O(aryl), –N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(C_{0-6}alkyl), -N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(C_{3-7}cycloalkyl), or –N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(aryl) groups;

Y is optionally substituted with 1-7 independent halogen, –CN, NO_2, -C_{1-6}alkyl, -C_{1-6}alkenyl, -C_{1-6}alkynyl, -OR^5, –NR^5R^6, -$C(=NR^5)NR^6R^7$, -$N(=NR^5)NR^6R^7$, –NR^5COR^6, -$NR^5CO_2R^6$, -$NR^5SO_2R^8$, –$NR^5CONR^6R^7$,–SR^8, -SOR^8, –SO_2R^8, –$SO_2NR^5R^6$, -COR^5, -CO_2R^5, –$CONR^5R^6$, -$C(=NR^5)R^6$, or -$C(=NOR^5)R^6$ substituents, wherein optionally two substituents are combined to form a cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl ring fused to Y; wherein the –C_{1-6}alkyl substituent, cycloalkyl ring, or heterocycloalkyl ring each optionally is further

substituted with 1-5 independent halogen, –CN, –C_{1-6}alkyl, –O(C_{0-6}alkyl), –O(C_{3-7}cycloalkyl), –O(aryl), –N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(C_{0-6}alkyl), -N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(C_{3-7}cycloalkyl), or –N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(aryl) groups;

W is –C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, –heteroC_{3-7}cycloalkyl, –C_{0-6}alkylaryl, or –C_{0-6}alkylheteroaryl optionally substituted with 1-7 independent halogen, –CN, NO_2, -C_{1-6}alkyl, -C_{1-6}alkenyl, -C_{1-6}alkynyl, –OR^1, –NR^1R^2, –$C(=NR^1)NR^2R^3$, -$N(=NR^1)NR^2R^3$, –NR^1COR^2, -$NR^1CO_2R^2$, -$NR^1SO_2R^4$, –$NR^1CONR^2R^3$,–SR^4, -SOR^4, –SO_2R^4, –$SO_2NR^1R^2$, -COR^1, -CO_2R^1, –$CONR^1R^2$, -$C(=NR^1)R^2$, or -$C(=NOR^1)R^2$ substituents;

Z is –C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, –heteroC_{3-7}cycloalkyl, –C_{0-6}alkylaryl, or –C_{0-6}alkylheteroaryl optionally substituted with 1-7 independent halogen, –CN, NO_2, -C_{1-6}alkyl, -C_{1-6}alkenyl, -C_{1-6}alkynyl, –OR^1, –NR^1R^2, –$C(=NR^1)NR^2R^3$, -$N(=NR^1)NR^2R^3$, –NR^1COR^2, -$NR^1CO_2R^2$, -$NR^1SO_2R^4$, –$NR^1CONR^2R^3$,–SR^4, -SOR^4, –SO_2R^4, –$SO_2NR^1R^2$, -COR^1, -CO_2R^1, –$CONR^1R^2$, -$C(=NR^1)R^2$, or -$C(=NOR^1)R^2$ substituents;

one of W and Z is optionally absent;

R^1, R^2, and R^3 each independently is –C_{0-6}alkyl, –C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, heteroaryl, or aryl; any of which is optionally substituted with 1-5 independent halogen, –CN, –C_{1-6}alkyl, –O(C_{0-6}alkyl), –O(C_{3-7}cycloalkyl), –O(aryl), –N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(C_{0-6}alkyl), -N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(C_{3-7}cycloalkyl), –N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(aryl) substituents;

R^4 is –C_{1-6}alkyl, –C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, heteroaryl, or aryl; optionally substituted with 1-5 independent halogen, –CN, –C_{1-6}alkyl, –O(C_{0-6}alkyl), –O(C_{3-7}cycloalkyl), -O(aryl), –N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(C_{0-6}alkyl), –N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(C_{3-7}cycloalkyl), –N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(aryl) substituents;

A is –C_{0-4}alkyl, –C_{0-2}alkyl–SO–C_{0-2}alkyl–, –C_{0-2}alkyl–SO_2–C_{0-2}alkyl–, –C_{0-2}alkyl–CO–C_{0-2}alkyl–, –C_{0-2}alkyl–NR^9CO–C_{0-2}alkyl–, –C_{0-2}alkyl–NR^9SO_2–C_{0-2}alkyl– or –heteroC_{0-4}alkyl;

R^5, R^6, and R^7 each independently is –C_{0-6}alkyl, –C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, heteroaryl, or aryl; any of which is optionally substituted with 1-5 independent halogen, –CN, –C_{1-6}alkyl, –O(C_{0-6}alkyl), –O(C_{3-7}cycloalkyl), –O(aryl), –N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(C_{0-6}alkyl), -N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(C_{3-7}cycloalkyl), –N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(aryl) substituents;

R^8 is –C_{1-6}alkyl, –C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, heteroaryl, or aryl; optionally substituted with 1-5 independent halogen, –CN, –C_{1-6}alkyl, –O(C_{0-6}alkyl), –O(C_{3-7}cycloalkyl), -O(aryl), –N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(C_{0-6}alkyl), –N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(C_{3-7}cycloalkyl), -N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(aryl) substituents;

B is –C_{0-4}alkyl, –C_{0-2}alkyl–SO–C_{0-2}alkyl–, –C_{0-2}alkyl–SO_2–C_{0-2}alkyl–, –C_{0-2}alkyl–CO–C_{0-2}alkyl–, –C_{0-2}alkyl–NR^{10}CO–C_{0-2}alkyl–, –C_{0-2}alkyl–$NR^{10}SO_2$–C_{0-2}alkyl– or –heteroC_{0-4}alkyl;

R^9 and R^{10} each independently is –C_{0-6}alkyl, –C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, heteroaryl, or aryl; any of which is optionally substituted with 1-5 independent halogen, –CN, –C_{1-6}alkyl, –

$O(C_{0-6}alkyl)$, $-O(C_{3-7}cycloalkyl)$, $-O(aryl)$, $-N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(C_{0-6}alkyl)$, $-N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(C_{3-7}cycloalkyl)$, $-N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(aryl)$ substituents;

R^{11} and R^{12} is each independently halogen, $-C_{0-6}alkyl$, $-C_{0-6}alkoxyl$, =O, $=N(C_{0-4}alkyl)$,or $-N(C_{0-4}alkyl)(C_{0-4}alkyl)$; and

any alkyl optionally substituted with 1-5 independent halogen substituents, and any N may be an N-oxide;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

22. (New) The compound of Claim 21 wherein:

X is 2-pyridyl, which is optionally substituted with 1-4 independent halogen, -CN, NO_2, $-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $-C_{1-6}alkenyl$, $-C_{1-6}alkynyl$, $-OR^1$, $-NR^1R^2$, $-C(=NR^1)NR^2R^3$, $-N(=NR^1)NR^2R^3$, $-NR^1COR^2$, $-NR^1CO_2R^2$, $-NR^1SO_2R^4$, $-NR^1CONR^2R^3$,$-SR^4$, $-SOR^4$, $-SO_2R^4$, $-SO_2NR^1R^2$, $-COR^1$, $-CO_2R^1$, $-CONR^1R^2$, $-C(=NR^1)R^2$, or $-C(=NOR^1)R^2$ substituents, wherein optionally two substituents are combined to form a cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl ring fused to X; wherein the $-C_{1-6}alkyl$ substituent, cycloalkyl ring, or heterocycloalkyl ring each optionally is further substituted with 1-5 independent halogen, –CN, $-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $-O(C_{0-6}alkyl)$, $-O(C_{3-7}cycloalkyl)$, $-O(aryl)$, $-N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(C_{0-6}alkyl)$, $-N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(C_{3-7}cycloalkyl)$, or $-N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(aryl)$ groups.

23. (New) The compound of Claim 22 wherein:

Y is phenyl, which is optionally substituted with 1-5 independent halogen, –CN, NO_2, $-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $-C_{1-6}alkenyl$, $-C_{1-6}alkynyl$, $-OR^5$, $-NR^5R^6$, $-C(=NR^5)NR^6R^7$, $-N(=NR^5)NR^6R^7$, $-NR^5COR^6$, $-NR^5CO_2R^6$, $-NR^5SO_2R^8$, $-NR^5CONR^6R^7$,$-SR^8$, $-SOR^8$, $-SO_2R^8$, $-SO_2NR^5R^6$, $-COR^5$, $-CO_2R^5$, $-CONR^5R^6$, $-C(=NR^5)R^6$, or $-C(=NOR^5)R^6$ substituents, wherein optionally two substituents are combined to form a cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl ring fused to Y; wherein the $-C_{1-6}alkyl$ substituent, cycloalkyl ring, or heterocycloalkyl ring each optionally is further substituted with 1-5 independent halogen, –CN, $-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $-O(C_{0-6}alkyl)$, $-O(C_{3-7}cycloalkyl)$, $-O(aryl)$, $-N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(C_{0-6}alkyl)$, $-N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(C_{3-7}cycloalkyl)$, or $-N(C_{0-6}alkyl)(aryl)$ groups.

24. (New) The compound of Claim 21 wherein:

Z is $-C_{0-6}alkylaryl$, or $-C_{0-6}alkylheteroaryl$ optionally substituted with 1-7 independent halogen, –CN, NO_2, $-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $-C_{1-6}alkenyl$, $-C_{1-6}alkynyl$, $-OR^1$, $-NR^1R^2$, $-C(=NR^1)NR^2R^3$, $-N(=NR^1)NR^2R^3$, $-NR^1COR^2$, $-NR^1CO_2R^2$, $-NR^1SO_2R^4$, $-NR^1CONR^2R^3$,$-SR^4$, $-SOR^4$, $-SO_2R^4$, $-SO_2NR^1R^2$, $-COR^1$, $-CO_2R^1$, $-CONR^1R^2$, $-C(=NR^1)R^2$, or $-C(=NOR^1)R^2$ substituents.

25. (New) The compound of Claim 21 wherein:

W is $-C_{0-6}$alkylaryl, or $-C_{0-6}$alkylheteroaryl optionally substituted with 1-7 independent halogen, –CN, NO_2, $-C_{1-6}$alkyl, $-C_{1-6}$alkenyl, $-C_{1-6}$alkynyl, $-OR^1$, $-NR^1R^2$, $-C(=NR^1)NR^2R^3$, $-N(=NR^1)NR^2R^3$, $-NR^1COR^2$, $-NR^1CO_2R^2$, $-NR^1SO_2R^4$, $-NR^1CONR^2R^3$, $-SR^4$, $-SOR^4$, $-SO_2R^4$, $-SO_2NR^1R^2$, $-COR^1$, $-CO_2R^1$, $-CONR^1R^2$, $-C(=NR^1)R^2$, or $-C(=NOR^1)R^2$ substituents.

26. (New) The compound of Claim 23 wherein:

Z is $-C_{0-6}$alkylaryl, or $-C_{0-6}$alkylheteroaryl optionally substituted with 1-7 independent halogen, –CN, NO_2, $-C_{1-6}$alkyl, $-C_{1-6}$alkenyl, $-C_{1-6}$alkynyl, $-OR^1$, $-NR^1R^2$, $-C(=NR^1)NR^2R^3$, $-N(=NR^1)NR^2R^3$, $-NR^1COR^2$, $-NR^1CO_2R^2$, $-NR^1SO_2R^4$, $-NR^1CONR^2R^3$, $-SR^4$, $-SOR^4$, $-SO_2R^4$, $-SO_2NR^1R^2$, $-COR^1$, $-CO_2R^1$, $-CONR^1R^2$, $-C(=NR^1)R^2$, or $-C(=NOR^1)R^2$ substituents.

27. (New) The compound of Claim 23 wherein:

W is $-C_{0-6}$alkylaryl, or $-C_{0-6}$alkylheteroaryl optionally substituted with 1-7 independent halogen, –CN, NO_2, $-C_{1-6}$alkyl, $-C_{1-6}$alkenyl, $-C_{1-6}$alkynyl, $-OR^1$, $-NR^1R^2$, $-C(=NR^1)NR^2R^3$, $-N(=NR^1)NR^2R^3$, $-NR^1COR^2$, $-NR^1CO_2R^2$, $-NR^1SO_2R^4$, $-NR^1CONR^2R^3$, $-SR^4$, $-SOR^4$, $-SO_2R^4$, $-SO_2NR^1R^2$, $-COR^1$, $-CO_2R^1$, $-CONR^1R^2$, $-C(=NR^1)R^2$, or $-C(=NOR^1)R^2$ substituents.

28. (New) A compound which is selected from the group consisting of:

2-[4-(4-pyridin-3-ylphenyl)-1H-imidazol-1-yl]pyridine;

1-[3-(1-pyridin-2-yl-1H-imidazol-4-yl)phenyl]-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridine;

2-[4-(3-pyridin-3-ylphenyl)-1H-imidazol-1-yl]pyridine;

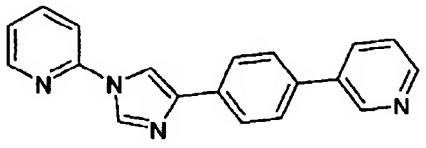
2-[2-fluoro-4-(4-pyridin-2-yl-1H-imidazol-1-yl)phenyl]pyridine;

2-[1-(3-methyl-5-pyridin-3-ylphenyl)-1H-imidazol-4-yl]pyridine;

3'-methyl-5'-(4-pyridin-2-yl-1H-imidazol-1-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl-2-carbonitrile

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

29. (New) A compound which is selected from the group consisting of: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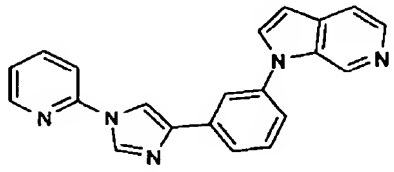
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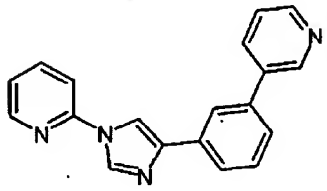
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or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

30. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound of Claim 21, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

31. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound of Claim 28, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

32. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound of Claim 29, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.